

CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

1. An immobilization device comprising:

a first electrode;

a second electrode;

a third electrode to come into contact with the target as a consequence of movement of the target; and

a signal generator selectively coupled to the first electrode, to the second electrode, and to the third electrode to provide a test signal via the first electrode and the second electrode to prompt movement of the target toward the third electrode, and to provide a stimulus signal for immobilization via the third electrode.

2. The device of claim 1 further comprising:

a memory comprising a list electrodes comprising indicia of the first electrode, the second electrode, and the third electrode, the list organized by subset to test; and

a processor that directs selective coupling of listed electrodes to the signal generator in accordance with monitored energy delivered into the target via the listed electrodes.

3. The device of claim 1 further comprising:

a memory comprising a list electrodes comprising indicia of the first electrode, the second electrode, and the third electrode, the list organized by subset to test; and

a processor that directs selective coupling of listed electrodes to the signal generator in accordance with monitored charge delivered into the target via the listed electrodes.

4. The device of claim 1 further comprising:

a memory comprising a list electrodes comprising indicia of the first electrode, the second electrode, and the third electrode, the list organized by subset to test; and

a processor that directs selective coupling of listed electrodes to the signal generator in accordance with a respective impedance between listed electrodes.

5. A method for immobilizing a target, the method comprising:

a step for providing a first electrode in contact with the target and a second electrode in contact with the target;

a step for providing a first signal via the first electrode and the second electrode;

a step for providing a third electrode for coming into contact with the target as a consequence of movement of the target in response to the first signal; and

a step for providing an immobilizing signal via the third electrode.

6. The method of claim 5 wherein the first signal comprises a test signal.

7. The method of claim 5 wherein the first signal comprises a stimulus signal.

8. A method for selecting a subset of electrodes from a plurality of electrodes, the subset for use in immobilizing a target, the method comprising:

a step for recalling a stored sequence of entries, each entry identifying a respective subset of electrodes; and

a step for sequentially testing subsets in accordance with the sequence of entries.

9. An immobilization device comprising:

a signal source that provides an immobilization signal;

a plurality of electrodes; and

a circuit that selectively couples each of a multiplicity of subsets of electrodes of the plurality of electrodes to the signal source for delivery of the immobilization signal via a selected subset of electrodes.

10. The device of claim 9 wherein the circuit:

determines a respective test result in response to coupling each subset of the multiplicity to the signal source; and

selects the selected subset of electrodes in accordance with comparing the test result of the selected subset to a limit.

11. The device of claim 9 wherein the immobilization signal comprises a peak voltage less than an ionization voltage.

12. The device of claim 9 wherein the immobilization signal comprises:

a stage for determining the respective test result; and

a stage for immobilizing a target having tissue in series between at least two electrodes of the selected subset of electrodes.

13. A projectile comprising the device of claim 9.

14. A system for immobilizing a target, the system comprising a launch device and the projectile of claim 13.